

III. Amendment to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of testing the authenticity of a document provided with at least one optico-diffractively effective ~~metallized~~ security indicium, comprising a pattern of metallization of different electrical conductivities, comprising the steps of:

storing a signal representative of the electrical conductivity of the security indicium of a genuine document;

moving a document along a predetermined path;

~~applying~~ capacitively coupling a voltage to the security indicium ~~by capacitive coupling~~;

measuring the voltage in the security indicium and deriving therefrom a signal representative of the ~~measured voltage~~ different electrical conductivities; and

comparing the ~~measured voltage~~ derived signal against the stored signal.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of altering the movement of the document in response to a difference between the stored signal and the measured voltage signal.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the optico-diffractively effective security indicium is a hologram comprising a plurality of discontinuous metallization segments.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the optico-diffractively effective security indicium is a hologram comprising a plurality of metallization segments of different thicknesses.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the optica-diffractively effective security indicium is a hologram comprising a plurality of discontinuous metallization segments with interspersed elements responsive to electromagnetic radiation of a predetermined frequency

range.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the electromagnetic radiation is ultra violet light and the responsive elements comprise a dye fluorescing when irradiated by ultraviolet light.

7. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the responsive elements comprise a light absorbing substance.